

December 24, 2002

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th street, SW, Room 8-B201
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 02-285, Petition for Rulemaking supporting open competition in Public Safety Frequency Coordination below 470 MHz.

Dear Mr. Chairman.

The Industrial Telecommunications Association, Inc. (ITA) recently filed comments in the proceeding above, requesting that the commission open up competition in the public safety and business frequency pools.

My company, Challenge Electronics, Inc., *supports* ITA's proposal for the reasons outlined below.

The current system of a single public safety coordinator is slow, cumbersome and results in extended delays in providing necessary services to our customers, the public safety and local government sector. While the current coordinator is dedicated to it's task, small enterprises like mine, who are not closely affiliated with their organization, find it difficult to provide the necessary services to our customers. A recent simple application filing for a government agency took several months to coordinate, while a similar application coordinated by ITA took just over a week to coordinate. Both applications were necessary for the safety of life, one being a hospital, the other a local Town. In each case the filings were similar in nature. The delay in the government sector application was due to unnecessary "local" coordination, multiple manual engineering processes, and unfamiliar association paperwork filings, which the current public safety coordinator required. ITA's application was efficiently processed utilizing a modern (on-line) automated process, which in its nature and design assured adequate necessary protection to existing and adjacent channel users, ample review and resulted in a proper FCC filing, in 3 times less time.

Opening coordination to additional organizations like ITA, in addition to providing obvious competition, provides small enterprises like my own, the availability to utilize a source for coordination services that we are familiar with, is efficient, cost effective, and as a result, allows us the ability to provide the best, cost effective services to our customers and in the end result, the public.

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By its very nature, additional competition in this frequency pool will in the end provide better services, more alternatives based on availability of timely service, and a choice in coordination.

For these reasons, we ask that the Commission bring market forces to bear to better serve the public safety community.

Sincerely,

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